In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A dual leading-shoe brake system comprising a backing plate, first and second actuating levers arranged for radial movement and first and second brake shoes, each brake shoe engaging a respective one of said actuating levers such that said actuating levers urge said brake shoes radially outward during braking operation, a first anchor fixed to said backing plate and presenting opposed faces, each engaging respectlve first ends of said actuating levers and adapted to engage a first end of a said brake shoe during braking while permitting vertical movement of said brake shoes, a second anchor adapted to engage a second end of a said brake shoe during braking, and an activating element engaging second ends of said levers and adapted to urge said levers apart during braking.

2. (Original) A brake system according to claim 1 further comprising an adjuster of variable length engaged between said actuating levers.

3. (Original) A brake system according to claim 2 further comprising a parking brake lever pivotally attached to one of said actuating levers and engaging said adjuster such that pivotal motion of said parking brake lever applies a separating force to said adjuster and to said one of said actuating levers.

4. (Original) A brake system according to claim 1 further comprising first and second pins, each of said pins connecting a respective one of said first and second levers to a respective one of said first and second brake shoes.

5. (Currently Amended) A drum brake system comprising first and second actuating levers arranged for radial movement to actuate respective brake shoes, a link of adjustable length extending between respective ends of said levers, and a parking brake lever pivotally attached to one of said actuating levers at a pivotal connection and also engaging one end of said link such that pivotal movement of said parking brake lever applies a force to said one of said actuating levers through said pivot connection and to the other of said actuating levers through said link.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A dual leading-shoe drum brake system comprising:

a backing plate;

an upper anchor secured to an upper part of said backing plate;

a lower anchor secured to a lower part of said backing plate;

first and second substantially identical actuating levers arranged symmetrically with respect to a line between said upper and lower anchors for radial movement and engaging said lower anchor;

first and second substantially identical brake shoes, each of said brake shoes being located adjacent a respective one of said actuating levers and adapted to be activated by said lever; wherein said brake shoes selectively engage said upper and lower anchors to transfer braking forces during braking; [[and]]

an actuating cylinder engaging upper ends of said actuating levers to urge said levers apart and initiate said braking,

an adjustment link extending between said first and second actuating levers, and

a parking brake lever pivotally attached to one of said actuating levers and engaging said adjustment link.

8 (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10 (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein each of said brake shoes is connected to said respective one of said actuating levers.

11. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1 wherein said first anchor comprises at least one block secured to said backing plate by an attaching element that is placed primarily in shear by application of braking forces to said anchor.

12. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 10 wherein said attaching element comprises one or more rivets.

13. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 7 wherein said lower anchor comprises at least one block secured to said backing plate by an attaching element that is placed primarily in shear by application of braking forces to said anchor.

14. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 12 wherein said attaching element comprises one or more rivets.